

REMARKS

In this Amendment, Applicants amend claim 35 and cancel claims 37-47. Claims 1, 3-20, 22-25, 27-32, 35, 36, and 48 remain pending and under current examination.

In the Office Action¹, the Examiner objected to claim 35 because it depended from canceled claim 34. The Examiner acknowledged that the application is in condition for allowance except for this indicated formal matter, and closed further prosecution of the application on the merits under *Ex parte Quayle*, 25 U.S.P.Q. 74, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213 (Comm'r Pat. 1935).

In response to the claim objection, Applicants have amended claim 35 to depend from claim 31, according to the Examiner's recommendations.

Based on the above amendments, Applicants have addressed and resolved the formal matters indicated by the Examiner. The application is *prima facie* in condition for allowance, and Applicants accordingly request a formal Notice of Allowance.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: January 8, 2007

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¹ The Office Action contains a number of statements reflecting characterizations of the related art and the claims. Regardless of whether any such statement is identified herein, Applicants decline to automatically subscribe to any statement or characterization in the Office Action.